

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic gain control (AGC) circuit
~~comprising comprising:~~

~~_____ a digitally-digitally-controlled amplifier being provided~~
~~with~~having a gain control loop including a level detector, a
5 threshold circuit and a digital gain control signal generator ~~being~~
coupled to a gain control input of the digitally-controlled
amplifier for supplying thereto a digital gain control signal,
characterized ~~by~~ in that said AGC circuit further comprises:

~~_____ a continuously-continuously-controlled amplifier being~~
10 coupled between an output of the ~~digitally-digitally-controlled~~
amplifier and the level detector, an output of the level detector
further being coupled to a gain control input of the ~~continuously~~
continuously-controlled amplifier for supplying thereto an
continuous gain control signal, the gain variation range of the
15 ~~continuously-continuously-controlled~~ amplifier at least
corresponding to ~~the~~ a gain step variation of the ~~digitally~~
digitally-controlled amplifier at an incremental step of said
digital gain control signal.

2. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed
in claim 1, characterized by in that said AGC circuit further
comprises:

_____ a loop filter being coupled between the output of the
5 level detector, ~~on the one hand~~ and the gain control input of the
continuously controlled amplifier and an input of the threshold
circuit ~~on the other hand~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed
in claim 1, characterized in that the threshold circuit comprises
first and second comparators for comparing ~~the an~~ output signal of
the level detector with positive and negative threshold levels
5 around a zero level for initiating the digital gain control signal
generator for a stepwise variation of the gain of the ~~digitally~~
digitally-controlled amplifier.

4. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed
in claim 13, characterized in that the digital gain control signal
generator comprises a pulse generator coupled to a clock-signal
input of a digital counter for supplying a clock-signal thereto,
5 the threshold circuit including a third comparator for comparing
the output signal of the level detector with a zero level, an
output of the third comparator being coupled to an up/down input of
the counter.

5. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed
in claim 3, characterized in that the gain variation range of the
~~continuously~~ continuously-controlled amplifier ~~caused~~-defined by
~~the a~~ range of the continuous gain control signal between the
5 negative and positive threshold levels, corresponds at least to the
gain variation of the ~~digitally~~ digitally-controlled amplifier over
two consecutive incremental steps of said digital gain control
signal.

6. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed
in claim 4, characterized in that the time period between two
consecutive clock pulses of the clock-signal is chosen sufficiently
large to prevent superposition of subsequent gain step variations
5 of the ~~digitally~~ digitally-controlled amplifier from occurring.

7. (Currently Amended) The AGC circuit according to as claimed
in claim 12, characterized in that ~~the a~~ time-constant of the loop-
filter is chosen sufficiently large to prevent regenerative
feedback of the gain control signal in the AGC loop from occurring.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Receiver~~ A receiver for ~~digitally~~
digitally-modulated signals comprising an AGC circuit as claimed in
claim 1, characterized ~~by~~ in that said receiver further comprises:

_____ an RF input filter for receiving digitally-modulated
5 signals, said the digitally-digitally-controlled amplifier of said
AGC circuit being coupled between to an output of said RF input
filter and;
_____ a phase quadrature mixer stage, coupled to the output of
said digitally-controlled amplifier;
10 respective frequency selective means coupled to phase
quadrature outputs of said phase quadrature mixer stage; thereof
being coupled through frequency selective means to
_____ a pair of phase quadrature ~~continuously~~ continuously-
controlled amplifiers forming said continuously-controlled
15 amplifier of said AGC circuit, this; and
_____ respective analog-to-digital converters coupling said pair
of phase quadrature ~~continuously~~ continuously-controlled amplifiers
being coupled through to a pair of phase quadrature analogue to
digital converters to said the level detector of said AGC circuit.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Receiver~~ The receiver as claimed in
claim 8, characterized in that the receiver is a DAB receiver.